



PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter 3, 2016

The Pollinator Partnership has been hard at work transforming our city into a home for pollinators. In the past few months, our partners have, in their own ways, worked on launching a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant more native plant species. The Indiana Wildlife Federation, Eagle Creek Park Earth Discovery Center, and Keep Indianapolis Beautiful continue to distribute native seeds and plants to the community as part of their outreach and educational efforts to promote planting natives throughout our communities. Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Bee Public and Save the Bees Indiana, respectively, have been connecting with students and teachers, hosting several pollinator talks to share the importance of pollinators to our local ecology. Indiana Wildlife Federation participated in several outreach events in the community, sharing information about monarch life cycle and monarch tagging in addition to actively highlighting the challenges facing pollinators. The Department of Public Works – Land Stewardship continues to diligently work to remove invasive species as an initiative of the Ecological Restoration Program; during the months of July to September, DPW removed 470 acres of invasive plant species.

In addition to these efforts, our partners have also introduced new initiatives to their programming:

The White River Alliance launched a social indicator survey to aid in the creation of a Pollinator Protection campaign.

Eagle Creek Park Earth Discovery Center launched their new Oasis Program in July; one event titled, "Creating A Monarch Butterfly Waystation", invited participants to explore the center's own Waystation and learn about its impact as a pollinator habitat. The event also provided participants with milkweed seedlings to create a pollinator habitat of their own in their gardens.

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful launched the city's first Pollinator Count Week, where the public was encouraged to help count pollinators across Marion County. Keep Indianapolis Beautiful provided counting tools and hosted informational events to deepen resident's knowledge of pollinators and the importance of planting native plants for the health of our ecosystem.

Our partners continue to do important work for our environment and if you interested in learning more about their different initiatives or getting involved, feel free to contact the Office of Sustainability at sustainindy@indy.gov.

